

Filed for intro on 01/22/98
HOUSE BILL 2585 By
McDonald

SENATE BILL 2915
By Graves

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 66, Chapter
29, Part 1, relative to the health access incentive account.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 66-29-151(b), is amended by adding
the following language between the first and second sentences:

Beginning with the 1998-99 fiscal year, phase one of such program shall focus
on recruiting primary care physicians and nurse practitioners for the fifteen (15) counties
which have the most acute shortages of primary health care. Incentives shall be
developed by the commissioner of health for these areas which include a combination of
scholarships for medical and nursing students; a loan repayment plan for primary care
physicians, specialists, and nurse practitioners; salary supplements; increased
recruitment for minorities; a rural residence training program and an alternating plan
which would provide time off for hard pressed rural physicians. Phase two of such
program shall be the development of a high technology/telecommunications program to
network rural areas to major specialty centers, and phase three shall focus on the needs
for medical specialists in the thirty (30) counties having the severest shortages of
specialists. The commissioner shall also develop a schedule for implementing each
phase of the program based on anticipated revenues and shall report annually to the
governor and to the members of the general assembly on the number and types of

900000000

90000000

010192

01019218

health care providers recruited and retained as well as the revenues and expenditures made during the fiscal year.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 66-29-121(a), is amended by deleting the second sentence in its entirety.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.